

## ROSENNE TO BE NAMED ISRAEL'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- The Cabinet confirmed April 10 that veteran diplomat Meir Rosenne will be named Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., replacing Moshe Arens who left Washington to become Minister of Defense. A formal announcement of Rosenne's appointment is expected shortly. He is presently Israel's Ambassador to France, a post he has held since 1979. Prior to that Rosenne served

as legal advisor to the Foreign Ministry in which capacity he played an important role at the Camp David negotiations in September, 1978, and in the subsequent peace negotiations between Israel and Egypt. Rosenne also served as Israel Consul General in New York during the 1960s. His appointment to Washington has long been predicted by the Israel media.

## ETHIOPIAN YOUNGSTERS



"It's good to be among Jews," Abraham declared. "We want to be good soldiers, good citizens, and sports champions. Israel will be proud of us."

Abraham is one of 35 Ethiopian Jewish youngsters who spent last summer in "camp" at Talpiot Hadera Youth Aliyah Village. Like the others in the group, he'd arrived in Israel two years before, and spoke fluent Hebrew. Recalling his arrival, he said, "It was like a dream. We clapped our hands and we sang. The older ones kissed the soil of Eretz Israel. Israeli authorities were waiting for us, they invited us to eat and provided us with accommodations."

What were the first real difficulties? "The language," Yossef replies. "I understand nothing around me. At school it was very difficult, but the Israeli kids helped us a lot."

David, when asked how he liked life in Israel, answered, "I enjoy it here. I study in the Youth Aliyah school during the year. Here, in Talpiot Village, we mix with Israeli kids and that's very important to me. We want to be like Israeli youth, exactly like them."

## KISSINGER MEETING WITH PLO OFFICIAL IS DEFENDED

WASH. (WNS) --- When former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger met with a PLO official in Morocco last November, he did so as a "private citizen" and was not conducting "back channel" talks for the Reagan Administration, according to a statement issued by the State Department April 7.

The Department statement was issued in response to an article in a Washington newspaper on the same day which claimed that the meeting caused "complications" in the U.S. effort to get King Hussein of Jordan to join in the Middle East peace negotiations. This point was rejected by the State Department saying, "Neither that conversation nor any of Dr. Kissinger's private activities have been a complicating factor in our diplomacy or have delayed the process."

Department spokesman John Hughes contended that Kissinger's efforts had been "mischaracterized" in the Washington Post story which revealed that Kissinger had met with Ahmed Dajani, a mem-

ber of the PLO executive committee and a top aide to PLO chief Yasir Arafat. Kissinger was in Morocco at the time for a meeting of the American Moroccan Foundation, a private foundation of which he is co-chairman of the board of trustees.

Kissinger, appearing on the NBC-TV "Today Show" on April 7, said the meeting with Dajani was not a 30 minute tete-a-tete as the Post reported but in full view of all those attending a party at King Hassan of Morocco's Moroccan Academy. Dajani apparently is a member of the Academy. Kissinger said he was brought over to meet Dajani as a Palestinian and did not know he was an official of the PLO. He said the conversation consisted of Dajani telling him that the U.S. should change its policy toward the PLO and his explaining why the U.S. should maintain it.

It was Kissinger, who as Secretary of State in 1975, made a pledge to Israel that the U.S. would not

negotiate with the PLO until it accepts United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 and recognizes Israel's right to exist. That policy, Hughes said, "remains unchanged."

The Post story said that Philip Habib, the U.S. special Mideast envoy, had to explain the Kissinger meeting to King Hussein of Jordan in London last March because when Hussein learned of the meeting, he feared the U.S. was working out a separate agreement with the PLO which would exclude Jordan.

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